

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An imaging apparatus, comprising:
a media carrier;
at least two exposure heads spaced apart from one another,
each exposure head disposed to image a portion of a single sheet of media secured on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier; and
an adjustable mechanism for moving the exposure heads relative to each other to change a spacing therebetween ~~during~~ while each exposure head is imaging.
2. (previously presented) An imaging apparatus comprising:
a media carrier;
at least two exposure heads spaced apart from one another,
each exposure head disposed to image a portion of a single sheet of media secured on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier; and
an adjustable mechanism for moving the exposure heads relative to each other to change a spacing therebetween wherein the adjustable mechanism comprises a heater located to controllably heat a rigid spacer coupling the exposure heads.
3. (original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the media carrier is a cylindrical drum and the media is secured to an external surface of the drum.
4. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each exposure head is traversed by a leadscrew nut coupled to the exposure head and located on a common leadscrew and the adjustable mechanism

comprises a coupling between at least one of the leadscrew nuts and the associated exposure head capable of being displaced relative to the other exposure head.

5. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the at least one of the leadscrew nuts is displaced by rotating the at least one of the leadscrew nuts on the common leadscrew.

6. (original) An apparatus according to claim 5, comprising an auxiliary motor for rotating the at least one of the leadscrew nuts in response to signals provided by a controller.

7. (original) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein each of the leadscrew nuts is rotatable and the common leadscrew is held fixed.

8. (original) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each exposure head is traversed by a separate leadscrew and leadscrew nut.

9. (original) An apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a target, the target responsive to provide information regarding the location of an imaging beam for each exposure head.

10. (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the target comprises a position sensitive detector.

11. (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the target comprises a pair of lines on a background, the lines at a pre-determined angle to each other, the lines of contrasting reflectivity to the background.

12. (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the target is located on the media carrier.

13. (original) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the media carrier is a rotatable cylindrical drum and the target is held fixed in position by holding the drum in a fixed rotational position.

14. (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the target is a single common target and the imaging beam location for each exposure head is determined with reference to the single common target.

15. (currently amended) ~~An apparatus according to claim 3 comprising~~ An imaging apparatus, comprising:
a media carrier;
at least two exposure heads spaced apart from one another,
each exposure head disposed to image a portion of a single sheet of media secured on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier;
an adjustable mechanism for moving the exposure heads relative to each other to change a spacing therebetween during imaging;
wherein the media carrier is a cylindrical drum and the media is secured to an external surface of the drum; and
a speed controller connected to allow a traverse speed of at least one of the exposure heads to be controlled sufficiently precisely to adjust a position of a last channel to within less than one beam width.

16. (currently amended) A method of imaging with at least two exposure heads, the method comprising:
loading at least one sheet of media on a media carrier;
~~adjusting the spacing between the exposure heads in accordance with the number of sheets and the size of the media loaded on the media carrier; and~~
imaging with each exposure head, a portion of a single sheet of media secured on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier-;and
adjusting a spacing between each of the at least two exposure heads while each exposure head is imaging.

17. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 40, wherein in the event of a failure of one of the at least two exposure heads the imaging of any number and size of media is completed by another one of the exposure heads.

18. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 40, wherein the relative spacing between the two or more exposure heads is adjusted by aligning each of the exposure heads to a target.

19. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 40, wherein each exposure head has at least one imaging beam, the method further comprising determining the pointing location of the imaging beam and adjusting the spacing between the exposure heads in accordance with the pointing location of the imaging beam.

20. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 40, comprising joining the portion imaged by each exposure head to form a unitary image on the single sheet of media secured on the media carrier.

21. (original) A method according to claim 20, wherein the joining comprises at least partially overlapping the portions imaged by each exposure head.

Claims 22-35. (cancelled)

36. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 37, wherein the adjustable mechanism is operable to change the spacing between the exposure heads during a retrace cycle.

37. (new) An imaging apparatus, comprising:
a media carrier;
at least two exposure heads spaced apart from one another,
each exposure head disposed to image a portion of a single sheet of media secured

on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier; and

an adjustable mechanism for moving the exposure heads relative to each other to change a spacing therebetween while each exposure head is moving concurrently.

38. (new) An apparatus according to claim 37, wherein:
the media carrier is a cylindrical drum and the media is secured to an external surface of the drum; and
the exposure heads are moveable along a path substantially parallel to an axis of rotation of the cylindrical drum, and wherein the spacing is changed along the path.

39. (new) An apparatus according to claim 37, wherein each exposure head is disposed to image along a scan path, and the adjustable mechanism is disposed to change the spacing along a direction substantially perpendicular to the scan path.

40. (new) A method of imaging with at least two exposure heads, the method comprising:
loading at least one sheet of media on a media carrier;
measuring a temperature of an adjustable mechanism for moving the exposure heads relative to each other to change a spacing therebetween;
adjusting the spacing between the exposure heads in accordance with the measured temperature; and
imaging with each exposure head, a portion of a single sheet of media secured on the media carrier, or one of at least two sheets of media secured on the media carrier.

41. (new) A method according to claim 38, comprising adjusting the spacing between the exposure heads in accordance with the number of sheets and the size of the media loaded on the media carrier.